

no 12

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS,

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SECTION

W E E K L Y   B U L L E T I N

For Period  
3 February to 9 February  
1946

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R E S T R I C T E D

W E E K L Y   B U L L E T I N

SECTION I

WELFARE

General

A study was completed during the week of the proposal of the Japanese Government to control population movements from rural areas to urban centers (cities of 100,000 or more population) as contained in CLO memorandum No. 450 (1.1) dated 30 January 1945. A reply to the memorandum was prepared and circulated among interested SCAP staff sections. After approval of the program by the Supreme Commander details of the plan will be announced.

Relief

In compliance with an informal request of this Section a preliminary status report was received from the Home Ministry regarding former Japanese Army and Navy stocks as of 31 December 1945. Although the report covers stocks other than those being held as reserve relief supplies, the information is of interest since the Japanese Government has been directed to place funds received from the sale of such goods in a central account to be used for welfare and relief purposes. The report stated that 111,457 metric tons of rice, wheat, barley and other cereals, had been received by the Home Ministry who had turned over 83,725 tons to the Foodstuff Control Corporation, and that 22,750 tons had been distributed to consumers.

Social Insurance

The Finance Division of the Economic and Scientific Section, this Headquarters, received a formal request from the Imperial Japanese Government during the week to blanket an estimated 2,880,000 ex-servicemen under the



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provisions of the social insurance system. The Japanese Government had been directed by this Headquarters to discontinue pensions and other benefits to Japanese Army and Navy personnel by 1 February 1946. The gist of the Japanese proposal is that these ex-servicemen and their dependents are now without resources or employment, that the subscriptions paid by ex-servicemen to the Pension Fund (amounting to approximately 1% of their salary) should be considered as insurance premiums, and that annuities and benefits to be paid ex-servicemen should be on an equal basis with other insured persons (despite the fact that the latter have been contributing more than 5% of their salaries to the insurance system).

A thorough study of the proposal is being made by this Section as well as by the Government Section and the Economic and Scientific Section of this Headquarters.

#### Foreign Nationals

Eighth Army Headquarters announced during the week that it had implemented the authorization of this Headquarters to distribute supplies to needy foreign nationals (other than enemy nationals) in Japan. An International Relief Committee has been organized to undertake actual distribution of the materials, to maintain proper records and to submit necessary reports.

A conference was held with American Red Cross officials regarding distribution of approximately 27,000 Red Cross clothing items shipped to Japan from the Philippines for use of foreign nationals. Details of the above mentioned program were discussed and complete agreement reached on all operating procedures. The Red Cross clothing will be made available for needy foreign nationals through the International Relief Committee under Eighth Army supervision.

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A conference was held during the week to establish a policy regarding the continued care of foreign nationals in Japan who do not desire repatriation. This policy will be announced following approval by the Supreme Commander.

SECTION II

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

General

Under a reorganization of the Public Health and Welfare Section, effective 4 February, Port Quarantine, Laboratory and Nutrition activities were separated administratively from the Preventive Medicine Division, and grouped under A.S. Consultants' Division.

Preparation of the Summary Report of Communicable Diseases for the four-week period ending 26 January 1946 was started.

Conferences were attended, together with the Laboratory Consultant and officials of the Ministry of Health, relative to the transportation, distribution and utilization of smallpox vaccine, which was made available by the encouragingly high production at the Kumamoto laboratory.

Population figures and information relative to diphtheria were furnished to the Laboratory Consultant and officials of the Ministry of Health to assist them in planning for the production of diphtheria toxoid for the projected immunization program.

Discussions were held with Col. Sams, Lt. Col. Wheeler, USATC, Maj. Kirkwood, I Corps Surgeon's Office, and Dr. Shibayama, Typhus Control Officer of the Ministry of Health, relative to the present epidemic of typhus fever in Osaka and Nagoya. The discussions covered particularly such points as the obvious breakdown in reporting, and alleged lack of cooperation, by the prefectural health officials in Osaka and the intensification of control measures.



both by civilian and U. S. Army authorities.

Sanitary Engineering

Water Supplies. Chlorine requirements for water treatment for 135 cities were submitted by the Bureau of Sanitation, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. The tabulation showed an average water consumption for each city, present chlorine dosage, chlorine requirements at present rates of dosage, and estimated chlorine requirements for dosages of 2.0 parts per million. Present rates of dosage vary from 0.1 ppm to 1.0 ppm in 127 cities, from 1.1 ppm to 1.5 ppm in 7 cities, and 4.0 ppm in 1 city (Taira).

Insect Control. Conferences have been held with the Bureau of Sanitation officials, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, regarding mosquito control. The little control work that has been done in the past has been entirely under prefectural health departments. Ministry officials could give little information as to control methods used, or supplies and equipment available. A definite program for mosquito survey and control work in endemic areas of mosquito borne diseases is to be submitted 20 February. As previously requested, an order has been issued by the Home Ministry for the refilling of water holes that were constructed for fighting fires during air raids.

Food Sanitation. Unsatisfactory sanitary conditions in food stalls on the streets of Tokyo, and other cities, has been brought to the attention of Japanese health officials. Laws against black marketing as well as food sanitation laws are said to be violated in many of these street stalls. Tokyo police have issued warnings to these merchants.

General. The first of a series of meetings was held this week with leading Japanese sanitary officials of this area for discussion of sanitary engineering in Japan. The need for qualified sanitary engineers in the Ministry,



prefectural and city health departments, was discussed at some length. In the discussion of sanitary engineering education, it became evident that university courses should be improved and expanded. Considerable interest was shown in the proposed program for education of the general public in sanitation.

#### Laboratory Service

**Production of Biologicals.** At a fourth conference with officials of the Japanese Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, several issues concerned with the production of biologicals were raised and significant decisions were reached. Among them were the following:

a. Stockpiles of military medical supplies in former military laboratories have been inventoried and such supplies as are suitable for use in manufacture of biologics will be quickly distributed on a revised plan and reported to this Headquarters.

b. Smallpox vaccine will be produced in the largest possible amounts and distributed at once to all key areas. Arrangements were made to obtain surpluses of smallpox vaccine from Kumamoto where large amounts are being produced under the direction of the 93rd Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment Military Government Group (Lt. J.G. Volk, MC, USNR) for distribution in the over-all program. At the same time this Headquarters arranged assistance from the Health Ministry for the Kumamoto Laboratory in the form of additional target equipment and supplies.

c. In compliance with the recent directive to the Imperial Japanese Government, a program for immunization of all susceptible individuals will be submitted and plans made for the production of the required amounts of diphtheria toxin.

d. Biologicals required for processing of repatriates will be provided.



produced by a similarly accelerated program.

Standardization of Penicillin. A working program was submitted by the Director of the Government Institute for Infectious Diseases in compliance with decisions of previous conferences. With the assistance of Capt. Charles Armstrong, M.C., 27th General Hospital, methods of assay and standardization will be explored at once in order to permit maximum production of penicillin by Japanese laboratories. The Ministry agreed to curtail the commercial sale of such penicillin as is now produced until its quality is established and its safety for use assured.

Standardization of Biologicals. As an extension of the principle already applied to penicillin, a program of standardization of all biologics is being developed by responsible officials of the Ministry and will be submitted to this Headquarters for approval.

#### Nutrition Service

Personnel. On 6 February 1946, Col. Paul E. Howe, SnC, reported for duty as Nutrition Consultant in the Consultant Division, vice, Maj. S. E. Moolten, Laboratory Consultant, who temporarily acted in that capacity since the departure of Maj. Corlette for the United States.

Nutrition Surveys. On 7 February, the Ministry of Health reported on the progress of nutrition surveys in Osaka, Nagoya, Kure and Fukuoka. The surveys began on 5 February at all places and include both urban and rural areas. They will continue for three weeks. The results are expected to be ready by the middle of March.

Plan for Nutrition Survey. A headquarters to supervise nutritional surveys, has been set up in the Welfare Ministry of the Imperial Japanese Government with branches in the Public Health Sections of the Prefectures of the



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cities to be surveyed. Survey groups will be organized, to conduct the surveys, consisting of 8 members - 2 physicians, 2 nutritionists and 4 assistants. A team is expected to observe the nutritional status of 60 persons and obtain data on food consumption of 6 families per day. The representative samples of the population observed will be as follows: cities of 1,000,000 or over, 1%; 500,000 to 1,000,000, 1.5%; 100,000 to 500,000, 2.0%. Individuals to be surveyed will be directed to assemble at a designated place within the area to be surveyed. A local conference will be held in each city by a representative of the Japanese Welfare Ministry to explain the survey to officials of the local government and to selected individuals of the prefecture.

Venereal Disease Control

The Ministry of Health and Welfare presented a proposed directive to the Prefectural Governors "suspending" the practice of issuing health certificates to individuals examined for venereal disease. Concurrence of this office was given.

Arrangements were completed for the establishment of venereal disease contact-tracing in Tokyo. The Staff Surgeon, the Office of the Provost Marshal, Tokyo, and the Chief of the Medical Section, 32nd Military Government Company, will supervise the work.

SECTION III

ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS

Reports received this week from Japanese civilian hospitals, of the percentage of occupied beds, indicate the first reversal of the downward trend during the period of occupation. There are now 2,947 hospitals with 201,537 beds, 83,553 of which are occupied.



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SECTION IV

NURSING AFFAIRS

Reports from Japanese

A conference was held regarding the reprinting of Japanese books for use in the nurses training schools in Japan. There are several late books written by outstanding doctors which might be helpful to the student nurses. A list of books and their authors was taken by Miss Kaneko to the Ministry of Health, requesting that they give consideration to the reprinting of these books. All of the books are Japanese and were written by Japanese.

Three appointments have been made for the 5th Medical Museum and Arts Detachment to take pictures of nurses' activities during the coming week at the Red Cross Hospital, the Imperial Gift Hospital, and St. Lukes International Hospital.

Medical books for the GHQ Nurses' Library were received this week from the 29th Medical Depot, Yokohama.

SECTION V

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

Representatives from the Veterinary Affairs Division conducted the following surveys:

a. The Shimotakaido Dairy Farm. This was found to be a model institution owned and operated by the Mitsui Real Estate Company for the purpose of supplying the members of that family with wholesome milk. With the addition of a small amount of equipment this establishment could be classified as a "certified dairy".

b. The Japanese Army Veterinary School. It was found that this school had acquired a leading position in the field of veterinary education and



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research. Its purposes were: education of newly commissioned veterinary officers; education of non-commissioned veterinary officers; manufacture of biologicals and medicines; research and compilation of records. The school was composed of the following departments: headquarters, education, research, preventive medicine (biological and medicine manufacture) and veterinary hospital.

Reports from Japanese

Animal Disease Report. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Animal Disease Section, reported that no new outbreaks of animal disease occurred during the week of 2 to 9 February 1946.

Army Veterinary Service. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has submitted the following information concerning the former Japanese Army Veterinary Service:

Classified as a Bureau the army organization allowed for veterinary representation at all levels. There were 5,024 veterinarians in the Japanese army with rank from second lieutenant to lieutenant general, inclusive.

The chief purposes of the veterinary service were animal disease control, veterinary supply and education of newly commissioned veterinary officers. Horse-shoeing was a very important responsibility. Food inspection was not a function of the veterinary bureau.

Great emphasis was placed upon the welfare of horses because of the wide use of these animals for transportation purposes. The records of disease among army horses were destroyed by fire, but strangles and infectious anemia in Japan, and surra and glanders in China, were considered to have been the most important infectious diseases. Air raids were responsible for a high casualty rate among China and Southern area horses. Malnutrition was also a problem of importance in those areas. Supply difficulties to forward areas



resulted in an acute and, in many instances, a total lack of medicines, instruments and horse shoes. Thus, divisional and regimental veterinary service was not efficient.

## SECTION VI

## DENTAL AFFAIRS

No report.

## SECTION VII

## SUPPLY

Narcotics

An investigation has been made of a shortage in narcotics reported by the Sankyo Drug Company after the return of a quantity of finished narcotics erroneously seized by the Eighth Army. It is now believed that the shortage was probably due to a lag in inventory, or to inaccuracy in counting the large quantity of packages. The Japanese plant officials, and Mr. Shiohara, President of the company, concur in this belief.

An inspection is being made of narcotic wholesale houses and their narcotic storage facilities in Kyushu.

Three shipments of narcopon, comprising 490 cases, have been located at the post office in Osaka. All were consigned, apparently before the surrender, to Taikoku, Formosa, by the Takeda Medicine Industry Company, Ltd. I Corps Headquarters has been directed to pick up these narcotics and store them pending directions from this office as to their disposition.

Production

Estimates of smallpox vaccine production exceeded the proposed plan by approximately 1,700,000 individual doses, for the period 4 to 9 February 1946. This production was accomplished at the Government Institute for Infectious Diseases and the Osaka Imperial University. This does not include the production at Kumamoto Laboratory for which no figures were available. It is



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estimated that two to three million were manufactured by Kumamoto. The Ministry plan contemplated production of 900,000 individual doses during this period. Health Ministry officials report sufficient numbers of cows are being made available to meet production programs for smallpox vaccine.

Two requests have been received to operate a portion of the Yoga Medical Supply Depot as a medicine manufacturing plant. This installation has a well-equipped laboratory which has been included on the reparations list. Health Ministry officials express a desire to operate a Hygienic Research Laboratory at the Yoga Depot. They desire to operate the entire depot and have discussed their plans with the Home Ministry. No definite decisions have been made. A conference is planned for 13 February 1946, to review plans of the Health Ministry and if considered advisable the Ministry will be assisted in carrying out proposed plans.

Health Ministry Officials furnished their office with a list of critically needed raw materials for manufacturing medicines. Expressed in terms of weight, items appearing on their list will approximate 3,000 tons. After a thorough review, this list will be discussed with the Economic and Scientific Section with a view to importation.

Distribution

Distribution of smallpox vaccine for the week was made to the following:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Doses</u>
	February	
Saibo Charity Hospital, Tokyo	7	500
Eighth Army Surgeon	8	10,000
XI Corps Surgeon	8	1,000
42nd General Hospital	8	300
Eighth Army Surgeon	9	20,000
I Corps Surgeon, Kyoto	9	200,000
IX Corps, Surgeon, Sapporo	9	125,000
XI Airborne Div Surgeon, Sendai	9	125,000



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Retail sale of Japanese Army medical supplies was held on 5, 6, and 7 February under the auspices of the Tokyo Prefectural Health Office in six large department stores strategically located throughout Tokyo, for the air raid victims. The stock involved was formerly Japanese Army supplies from the Yoga Medical Depot, which were sold for about one-tenth of the prevailing "black-market" prices on similar items. Possibilities are being explored for having similar sales in other cities, and preliminary plans are in process for one in Nagoya.

Habu Snake Antivenum (1600cc) was delivered to the 29th Medical Depot in Yokohama for shipment to the Medical Supply Officer at the Okinawa Base Command.

A plan for the distribution of penicillin was submitted by the Welfare Ministry. The procedure involved is to be followed only until there is sufficient supply to effect general distribution. The plan will embrace the inauguration of a central committee who will be responsible for authorization of penicillin manufacturers and distribution to hospitals, upon request to the penicillin committee. Hospitals will make clinical reports to the committee on each case treated with penicillin.

A monthly report pertaining to production and distribution of penicillin will be submitted to this Division not later than the 15th day of the calendar month. All information will be in terms of Oxford units, and the amount in the releases column will be supported by a list of consumers and quantities to each.

The Preventive Medicine Division is developing a plan covering standards and other technical data on penicillin up to the point where a manufacturer may be authorized to produce on a commercial scale.

SECTION VIII

LEGAL

No report.



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SECTION IX

DIRECTIVES TO THE JAPANESE

A directive to the Imperial Japanese Government, subject "Diphtheria Control", AG 720 (4 Feb. 46)PH (SCAPIN-698) instructed the Japanese to produce diphtheria toxoid and to immunize all persons from nine months to ten years of age.

*Crawford F. Sams*

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Chief, Public Health and Welfare Section.

3 Incl:

- Incl. 1 - Communicable Disease Report, Japan, Week ending 26 Jan '46.
- Incl. 2 - Communicable Disease Report, Japan, 4-Week, ending 26 Jan '46.
- Incl. 3 - Memorandum to Japanese Government, "Diphtheria Control".

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